

RIC 2002 Session W2 Reactor Oversight Process NEI Perspective

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Maintain Safety

- Industry and NRC resources expended on more important issues
- Findings and issues are corrected in a timely manner
- Essentially no change in baseline inspection hours
- Plant safety performance continues to improve
- Improved safety focus is increasing safety



Enhance Public Confidence

- General public not concerned about nuclear power
- Interested public segments include financial community, media and special interest groups
- Feedback from media and financial community is overall positive
- Loss of website post 9/11 demonstrated value of information
- Mixed reaction from special interest groups



Improve efficiency and effectiveness

- NRC activities better focused on risk important areas
- Lack of initial NRC risk training hampered the effectiveness of SDP
- Delay of risk notebooks caused inefficiency
- Non-reactor SDPs continue to need work to ensure color consistencies across cornerstones
- Potential changes to unavailability PI should provide for more efficiency
- Integrated structure provides focus and discipline to oversight process



Reduce Unnecessary Regulatory Burden

- Less regulatory attention of issues of low safety importance
- Inspections are better focused
- Lack of common risk tools has increased burden
- Subjectivity in some SDPs (e.g, ALARA and rad materials control) has wasted resources
- Need to align safety focus of the ROP with the regulations



Overall Conclusion

- ROP is a significant improvement over SALP
- Can detect discernible differences in performance for more effective NRC resource allocation
- Results are more timely, predictable and representative of performance
- Overall risk focus helps “pave the way” for future risk-informed initiatives

